

out of TOUCH

A special publication for Gallaudet University staff and faculty

April 1, 1992

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Students gather for ritualistic rites paying homage to Gallaudet's icon, Tony the Tiger.

Lack of humor cancels 'April Fool'

The April Fool's issue of *On the Green* has been canceled this year due to lack of humor.

According to an official report from the Office of the President, which asked that no direct source be quoted, "There's nothing funny happening on campus." They explained, "Well, there's a lot of funny stuff happening, but it's not *funny*. See how confusing language is?"

The President's Office specifically requested that no mention be made of issues related to communication. "We don't want to talk about it," they did not say.

On the Green also was asked not to discuss the following areas in the April Fool's issue (or any other, for that matter):

- Why people at Pre-Concerned Programs are not talking to each other.
- Whether lots are still being drawn for tenants of the Kellogg Conference Center for Traipsing and Deployment, and how the losers plan to retaliate. (Also how, once the new center is open, the venerable Bison will be replaced by Tony the Tiger as Gallaudet's mascot.)
- How the University will be soliciting students from schools for blind people nationwide to help offset the projected 25 percent decline in enrollment by 1995. (And how braille may become the official communication mode used at Gallaudet.)
- How the mutilated body of Alexander Graham Bell was discovered at the bottom of a trash chute uncovered when a wall was knocked down during College Hall renovation.
- How the Michelangelo virus will really destroy the entire computer network throughout the University on April 15, after all of Gallaudet's computer nerds have let down their

guard and become complacent again.

- Whether Sen. Tom Harkin, following his resignation-from-running-for-president speech held on Kendall Green, plans to mount a new campaign for president of Gallaudet.

Additional rumors will not be discussed in *OTG* as soon as they come to light. Inside information may be E-mailed to ODDBIRD or left in an unmarked envelope in the Office of Fabrications and Productions.

Renovations blend historic, modern

Every 10 years, Gallaudet University is required to file a plan with the District of Corruption detailing major construction projects that are planned to be undertaken in the next 10 years.

According to Chick Peoples, spokesman/woman for the Business Services Department of the University, the most recently filed plans call for the renovation of every building on campus, to coincide with the University's goals of cultural diversity and accessibility.

How is this to be accomplished? The plans are both all-encompassing and specific. Whereas, in the past, the campus was a mixture of old and new architectural styles—Victorian and modern—the new plans call for each individual building to blend both historic and modern elements—a style characterized by Peoples as "nouveau eclectic."

For example, Chapel Hall and College Hall, only recently restored to their original historic elegance, will now be further renovated to include modern design touches such as skylights, solar heating, and revolving doors. The entrance area of House One will be demolished and replaced with a glass and steel A-frame con-

Three famous experts investigate just what the heck is wrong with us

Rampant rumors of bulldozing, bickering, and baulking at Gallaudet have eventually reached The Hill and led to yet another—move over Clarence and Anita—congressional investigation. This one prompted Rep. Major Concern (Whig-N.Y.) to invite a team of external advisors to find the root of what ails the University and, if possible, to prescribe a cure.

Major Concern's major concerns concerned concerns expressed by parents, teachers, and students in Gallaudet's Pre-Concerned Programs and a small but vocal group called Smokers Oblivious concerning conflicting attitudes at Gallaudet toward new communication and smoking policies.

At a news conference, Concern identified the advisors, famed small town mediation expert Pollyanna, legendary Vienna (Metro stop) inventor of psychoanalysis Signal Fraud, and ace British sleuth Hemlock Bones (now 150 years old), who insisted on bringing along his uncannily dense sidekick, the aged Dr. Whatswrong? (short for "Whatswrongwiththemedicalmodel?").

At the news conference, Gallaudet President Kink Jogging urged utmost cooperation with the advisors, although he made it clear that

Pollyanna was the "advisor of choice," the other two being best known "for digging up dirt—either from people's subconscious minds or from their back yards."

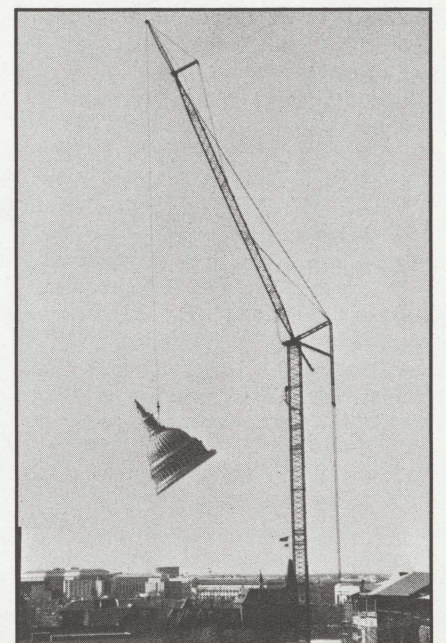
Pollyanna, whose positive outlook on life has enabled her to stay 10 years old for nearly 80 years, arrived all smiles, dimples, and pigtailed the following morning. After breakfasting with the Jogging family on Special K while jogging around the breakfast table, learning sign language, and getting a briefing on the issues all at once, Pollyanna jogged with Kink across campus to the office of Dr. Migraine Derringer, dean of Pre-Concerned Programs. The office was completely dark and Derringer groaned as the door opened and the hallway light surrounded Kink and Pollyanna, "Please close the door!" Migraine said. "I feel a headache coming on!"

Is it related to my emphasis on Totalled Communication?" Jogging inquired.

"Well, yes," Migraine replied. "But, to be fair, someone down the hall was recently smoking too."

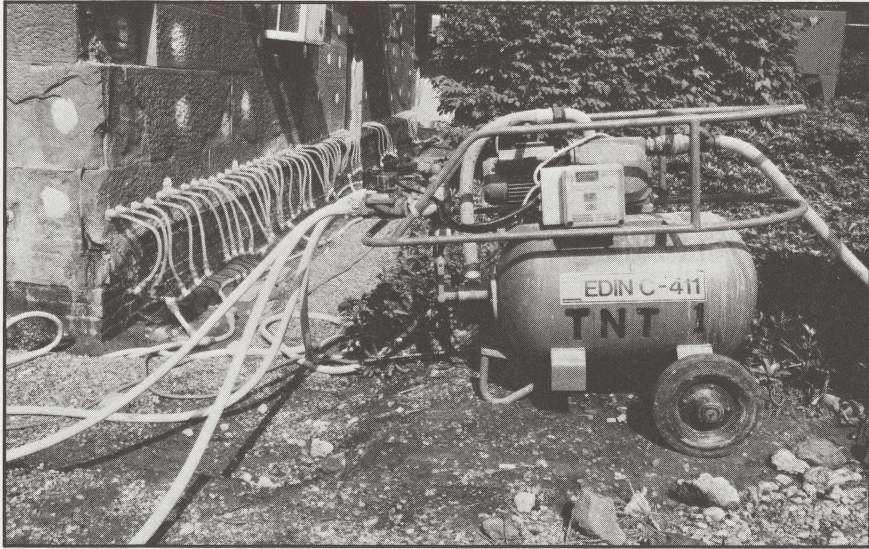
Derringer handed Pollyanna a copy of *Unblocking Your Reticulum* and suggested she read it thoroughly before making her recommendations. He also proffered an unpublished paper from Smokers Oblivious, called *UP YOURS!: An Oppressed Minority Group Strikes Back Against Its Oppressors*.

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Congress was so impressed with Gallaudet's construction blitz that it hired the HMB crane to relocate its world-renowned showpiece to Kendall Green.

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When Constriction Services initially learned that it had been bilked by a contractor on sandstone for Chapel Hall, drastic measures were planned to scrap the project.

Pre-Concerned Programs keeps T&A

During a tension-filled meeting at the Muddled Secondplace School, President I. Kink Jogging reaffirmed the role of Total Accommodation (T and A) as the official communication policy in Pre-Concerned Programs (PCP).

Jogging's announcement followed a furor at PCP over the role of Ambiguous Sensual Language (ASL) in the classroom. According to Jogging, "T and A encompasses all of the communication methods that have been used with deaf children in the classroom, including Ambiguous Sensual Language. Each child must have an Imitation Educational Perplexity (IEP) that designates which communication method will be used with that child."

Jogging went on to discuss some of the methods that are included within the T and A philosophy: Synchronized Machination (S and M); Cute Speech (CS); SEE I, SEE II, and SEE U; ORAL-

ism (developed at Oral Roberts University), Ambiguous Sensual Language (ASL), and a very recent addition to the T and A arsenal known as Synthetic Complexity (SC). SC was developed in Israel and, in the United States, involves speaking English backwards while signing ASL.

"We're not really sure if anyone can understand some of these methods," noted Jogging, "but we are committed to doing the research needed to find out" (See related story). Even after the research is conducted, there will still be a problem setting up IEPs because very few people have ever used some of these methods. For example, only Southern Baptists have ever used ORALism, and Cute Speech is used primarily in Southern California.

Jogging finished by saying, "These are only a few of the difficulties that we have had to wrestle with, but we are committed to T and A."

'Deafosphere' will insulate campus from outside forces

Gallaudet will soon enclose its Kendall Green campus in a hermetically sealed, bulletproof, plexiglas dome—an attempt to make the campus free of drug wars, bullets, environmental toxins, and hearing contamination.

"This is a first," said President I. Kink Jogging. "And I believe that other organizations in Washington, D.C., and around the world will copy our model."

Among other things, the dome will protect Kendall Green from any gunfire occurring between rival drug gangs who claim turf outside the campus boundary; airborne lead and carbon monoxide, and the sun's ultraviolet rays.

People who enter the Deafosphere will pass through one or two decontamination chambers, depending on their hearing status. The first chamber will strip everyone of gases and chemicals alien to the Deafosphere. Only hearing, hard of hearing, late-deafened, oral, semi-oral, semi-ASL, Totalled Communication, Cute Speech, mainstream, and semi-mainstream people must enter the second chamber. There they will be cleansed of all linguistic and social customs of the hearing world.

The dome's sides will extend along Sixth Street and behind Hamboneton Junior High School to West Virginia Avenue, and from Mt. Olivet Road to just behind the stone wall on Florida Avenue. According to Bill Oh-No!, manager of Maintainous and Unsavory Situations, how to handle the dome in relation to Gallaudet's historic stone

wall was one of the more complex issues Deafosphere planners had to resolve.

"Gallaudet likes to hold onto its history," said Oh-No!. "That's what the Metrobuses that careened into our wall twice in three years are—history."

To protect the wall while still allowing this traditional contact between Metrobus and Gallaudet to continue, the wall will not be enclosed in the dome but will be equipped with a rubber bumper pad, which, when hit, will activate an air bag the size of a hot air balloon (see photo).

Kendall Green's sister campus, the



Air bags have been so successful in preventing injuries that one has been installed at the Eighth Street entrance. DOSS officer Rhonda Ruckus shows how the bag looks when inflated.

'The hidden addiction': M&M abuse on campus spirals, cure unknown

Every morning around 10:30, like lemmings rushing to the sea, faculty and staff from all over campus abandon their classes and desks in a mad rush for the candy machines.

The same phenomenon can be observed around 3:30 p.m. as work, in effect, stops for what has become the most prevalent new addiction at Gallaudet: M&Ms.

Originally thought to be harmless, M&Ms are now being revealed for what they truly are—and proven so by super intelligent experts in scientific fields such as those who regularly appear on "Geraldo." Their conclusion: M&Ms are more addictive than cigarettes, alcohol, or brussels sprouts.

Shaped like squashed chick peas, sugar coated, and sold in innocuous-looking brown paper wrappers, M&Ms are suspected to contain ingredients that impair mental alertness, cause irrational behavior, and drastically alter personal appearance.

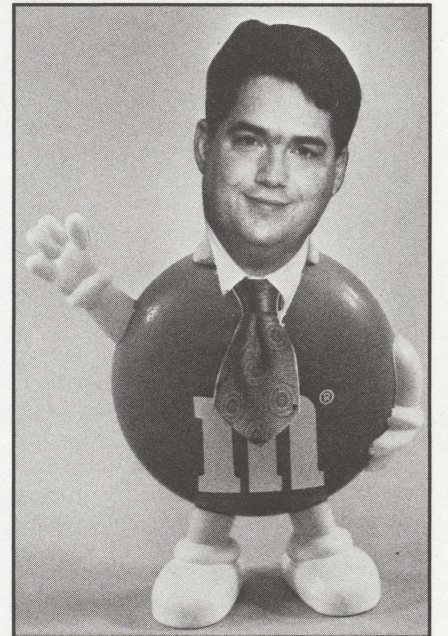
Eat that fiber!

The discovery of a fine print clause in the Kellogg jackpot contract revealed a caveat: Gallaudet must repay the \$12 million by mailing in box tops from Kellogg products. Estimates show that each person on campus must eat 10 boxes of Kellogg's cereal a day (Pop Tarts are acceptable) for three years to pay the loan. YUCKO Food Services is doing its bit, introducing tantalizing entrees to the cafeteria menu, such as Rice Krispy stroganoff, Fruit Loops benedict, and Sugar Pops au gratin.

Even normally rational individuals in high-level positions have been affected. "It's frightening," says Linder Berry, secretary in the Office of Very Private Relations. "I watched my boss, Mural Stresser, scarf a pound bag of M&Ms and keep right on going until she ate her pearl earrings and made a dive for the telephone buttons."

Unlike most addictive substances, M&Ms have a unique effect that involves the desire to *become* the substance (see accompanying photo). This factor originally came to light with a report from Oddiologist Cinder Carpeting, who says that perfectly fine, level-headed people in her department who are long-term M&M users have been observed suddenly turning glassy-eyed, sweaty, and shaky—like personnel waiting for the Cashier's Office to open on payday—and bolting out the door.

"This has got to stop," said Carpeting. "Once M&M users reach a certain point in their addiction, they look much like earmolds for hearing aids. Complaints are coming in from clients who say, 'They don't melt in your hand, they melt in your ear.'"



Extreme cases of M&M addiction can result in bizarre physical side effects.

Out of TOUCH

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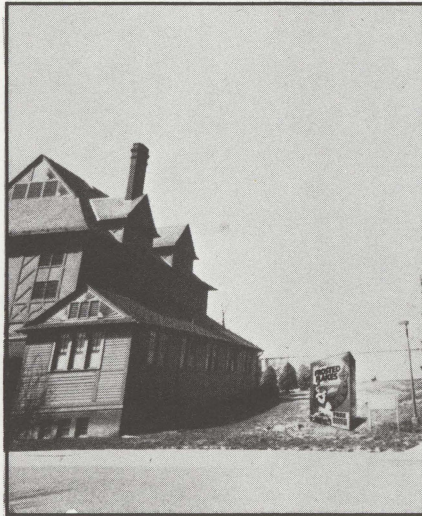
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Gallaudet University is working VERY hard at being an equal (60-40, maybe) opportunity gulag and does not discriminate EXCEPT on the basis of height, weight, sexual activity, and state of mind in dismissal from its programs or employment. Mutants from Krypton are encouraged to apply.



(LEFT) The original, pre-recessional schematic drawing for the Conference Center for Traipsing and Deployment. (Note the advertised special for thirsty staffers.) (RIGHT) The scaled-down, hard times version of the center.

Sign language debate to be moot after Mental Telepathy is adopted

As part of its ongoing efforts to research various modes of communication, Gallaudet University will be testing a new system this fall that promises to negate the use of all other forms of communication.

The new system, called Mental Telepathy (MT), will operate through direct extrasensory input.

"Using MT, people can completely bypass the mundane physical forms of communication such as spoken, signed, and written languages," explained Dr. Jain Thirst, chair of the Department of Psychometry and Religious Experience, who is heading the Non-tasking Force for MT. "All students, staff, and faculty will learn to transcend all physical barriers to full mental transcendence and comprehension."

Thirst emphasized that all members of the campus community will be given ample time to learn MT. Several assistive devices—including rabbit ears and remote-control cable—will be available for those who need initial help or are identified as MT-disabled.

The Force is already in contact with several telepaths, empaths, and

other psychics to teach the MT method. They include Shirley MacLaine, the Dalai Lama, and former California governor Jerry Brown.

"MT may be the most efficient mode of communication we've come up with," said President I. Kink Jogging. "It also has the potential to increase the camaraderie among our culturally diverse population, because with MT you actually have to get into another person's mind. This could also be a real boon for our Department of Insecure Safety."

Besides basic communication, MT has additional benefits, said Jogging. For example, MT will eliminate the need for E-mail and time spent on the computer and will reduce the need for TDDs, interpreters, and the campus telephone system.

Finally, all meetings on campus can be conducted in the astral plane at prearranged times. If initial results are successful, the University also will look at the possibility of conducting all classes in MT, with students remaining in their dorm rooms. This could save the University untold millions of dollars in renovation and facilities costs, said Jogging.

Cloning bridges communication gap

Dr. Hy Gene, a gene researcher with the National Organization on Deafness and Other Communication Superiorities (NODOCS), has announced successful initial tests of CommClone, an assistive signing device that may help improve sign language communication between people who use different sign modalities.

CommClone works like this: Suppose a Signing About Whatever (SAW) user is having trouble communicating because a Cute Speech user didn't understand his or her signs. The SAW person can simply drop a pill containing his or her entire DNA code into a glass of mouthwash and within five minutes grow an identical clone, which can quickly be programmed through a dataport installed in the navel to sign in Cute Speech. The clone is programmed to interpret whatever sign system the originator is using into the system preferred by the receiver.

Gene decided to develop CommClone after observing that everyone at Gallaudet suffered from "signophrenia." "The condition is marked by inability to determine proper social and linguistic behavior,

confusion about personal identity, and a constant need to justify oneself," Gene said. "Victims in the final stages must be isolated in therapy groups with names like 'task force.'"

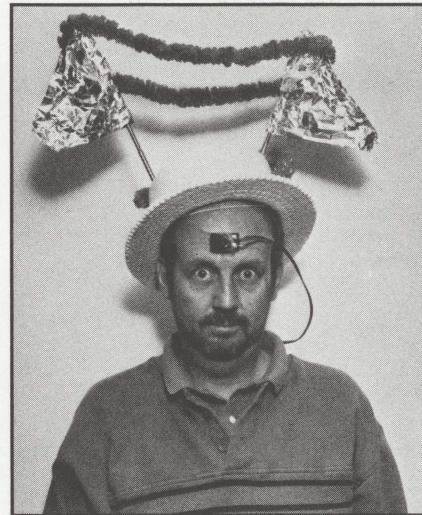
Gene blames signophrenia on nervous system overload caused by the requirement that everyone on campus adhere to the policies set forth in the Total Confusion manual, which describes the campus' 5,000 sign languages and how they should be used.

After a clone is no longer needed, it is rendered back into pill form by forcing it to watch a videotape of a University Faculty Stagnate meeting.

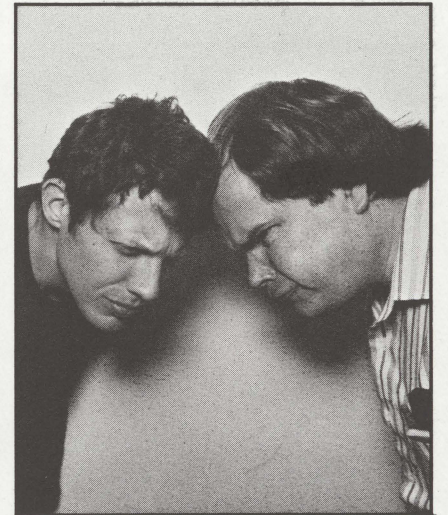
"It just loses its will to live," Gene explained.

CommClone will soon be available through CommClone, Inc., according to Vice President for Marketing Gene Therapy. "Just send us a fingernail and we'll send you back a vial of pills, a dataport, and the necessary software in a few weeks," he said.

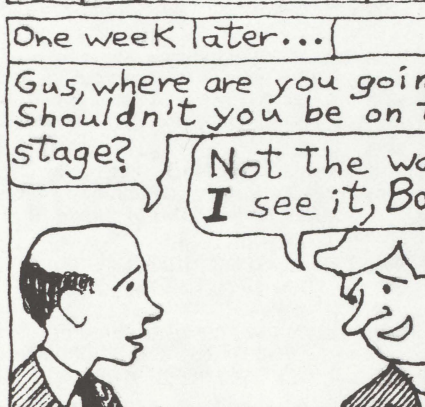
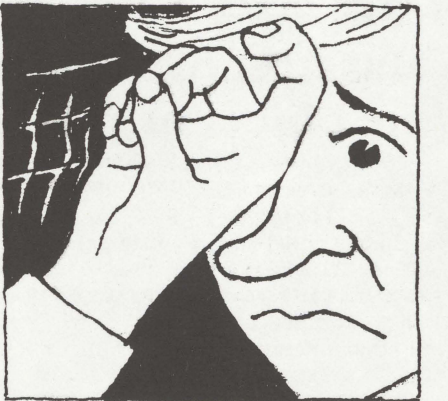
Vials will contain 100 pills and cost only \$10. "DNA manufacture is cheap in this area because we can whip it up right out of the sewage in the Potomac," Therapy said.



(LEFT) Phlegm McCartney sports an assistive device to aid mental telepathy. (RIGHT) Remedial MTers Odd Bird and Random Gender are engrossed in spirited discussion.



GULLIBLE GUS O'GALLY



Cures prescribed for University's ills

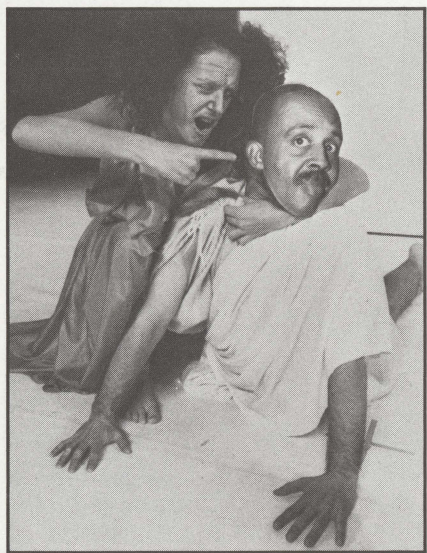
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Meanwhile, white-haired Signal Fraud stood smoking a cigar outside EMG. Because of Gallaudet's smoking policy, Fraud's investigation was limited to people standing beside BUTT-buckets. "You're just lucky I'm a completely objective scientist," Fraud told Jogging. "Otherwise, it would be hard for me to examine Gallaudet's lousy, degrading policies in an unbiased fashion."

Hemlock Bones, in his usual unpredictable manner, conducted his entire investigation at night, walking about campus with a flashlight, poking around seldom-noticed tombstones emblazoned with the likenesses of rats. Far more visible to daytime staff was Bones' assistant, Dr. Whatswrong?, who, upon learning that he was visiting a school for deaf people, had brought with him an ear trumpet.

Several days later, the entire Gallaudet community convened in the Field House to learn the results of the investigation.

"What we have here at Gallaudet is a failure to communicate!" Pollyanna said cheerfully. I recommend that to increase empathy, you nonsmokers smoke a pack of cigarettes every day and that smokers go harass another smoker once a day, so you'll see how much fun it is.



The SCPI police drag another hapless staff member off to a sign evaluation videotaping.

Mass renovations are object of plan

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Mon.: College Hall, HMB, MSSD, Ely Center

Tues: Chapel Hall, Kendall School, Dawes House

Wed.: EMG, Fowler Hall, West Office Bldg., CUB

Thurs.: Kendall Hall, Ole Jim, Mary Thornberry

Fri.: Houses 2, 3, 4, Washburn Arts, Learning Center

Individuals, offices, and departments are responsible for finding their own alternative space for the day each week their building is being renovated. They may return to their work area on the other four days. This will provide an opportunity for staff and faculty to get to know people in other areas of the campus with whom they may not have had previous contact.

The total renovation/demolition project is expected to be accomplished by the year 2001.

4 Out of Touch

"Everyone here seems to be blinded by biases," she continued. "Lots of people complain about the paper, *Unblocking Your Reticulum*, for instance, just because of that *sad* opening line, 'YOU ARE A TOTALLED FAILURE!' You completely overlook the paper's beautiful *glad* verses, like 'There's nothing wrong with snacking at Ely,' or 'Everything will be fine, after you resign.'"

Signal Fraud delivered his analysis, noting that the entire campus suffers from a peculiar form of paranoia, which he labeled *Dementia Gallaudetiana*. Fraud conjectured that this paranoia may be based on "cigar envy," which he noted in all of his patients, but he admitted that "constraints forced me to analyze a possibly atypical sample." Fraud observed that the paranoia here seemed so acute that the entire community would be best advised to move to St. Elizabeths Hospital in Anacostia, vacated now due to deinstitutionalization.

Hemlock Bones began his presentation by saying he could explain how Gallaudet's troubles began. "Knowing a little about the quarrels of E.M. Gallaudet and A.G. Bell," Bones said, "and that E.M.G. claimed 'the hatchet was buried,' I decided to try to find the hatchet." It was found near some rat graves beside Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet's statue, with a penned transcript of the two famous men's last quarrel:

Bell: Doggonit, Edward, why do you keep forgetting what we all agreed on in Milan!

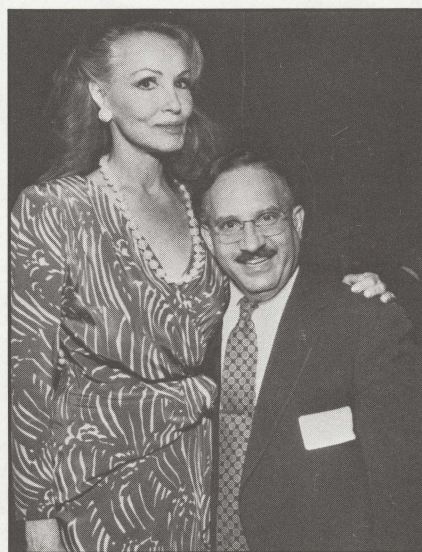
E.M.G.: Agreed! Doggonit, Alexander, I *dis*agreed, and you know it! Anyway, why should I go along with the notions of somebody so dense as to invent the telephone for people who can't hear?

Bell: Dense? You called me dense, you blithering idiot?

[At this point, Bell threw a hatchet, narrowly missing E.M.G., and then stormed off to the Volta Bureau in a carriage. E.M.G. thought it best to bury the hatchet the next day.]—E.A.F.

"What is most striking in this transcript," Bones continued, "is the lack of communication between the participants, one of whom was the founder of this institution. I offer the transcript as evidence that history repeats itself."

With that, Major Concern thanked the advisors for their observations and urged the restless audience to ignore all of the advice they had just heard and to return to "business as usual."



"Being short has its advantages!" says Provost Heavy Corset.



SPCA members give a demonstration of socially unacceptable ways to handle your dog during a seminar for hearing ear dog owners on "Preventing Dog Abuse."

Exciting courses added to curricula

The following are new course offerings for the 1992-93 academic year:

- BIO 325 Cuticle Craft
- BIO 336 You and Your Birthmark
- BIO 348 How to Cultivate Viruses in Your Refrigerator
- BUS 351 Talking Good: How You Kin Improve Speech and Git a Better Job
- BUS 357 Career Opportunities in Iran
- BUS 607 Under Achiever's Guide to Extremely Small Business Opportunities
- HOM 323 Basic Kitchen Taxidermy
- HOM 301 Sinus Drainage at Home
- HOM 354 Needlecraft for Junkies

- PED 234 Creative Tooth Decay
- PED 348 High Fiber Sex
- PED 331 Skate Your Way to Regularity
- PED 368 Optional Body Functions
- PED 401 Tap Dance Your Way to Social Ridicule
- PHY 313 How to Convert a Wheelchair into a Dune Buggy
- PSY 317 Creative Suffering
- PSY 303 Overcoming Peace of Mind
- PSY 411 The Primal Shrug
- PSY 400 Guilt without Sex
- PSY 311 Whine Your Way to Alienation
- PSY 367 The Repair and Maintenance of Your Virginity

Discovery of lost campus reported

The year 1992 will always be remembered at Gallaudet as the year the Northwest Campus was rediscovered.

The Northwest Campus was originally established in 1983 and almost immediately thereafter vanished from sight and mind. Despite widespread rumors on Kendall Green that a strange race of people who communicated through gestures was living somewhere in northwest Washington, D.C., eventually most the existence of the campus was believed to be a legend, like the lost continent of Atlantis.

The campus was rediscovered by Ali Gator, a graduate student in the Department of Linguini and Interrupting. Gator, a moonlighting cab driver, stumbled across the lost campus by driving down Kalmia Road at 2,001 m.p.h., thereby breaking the time and space barriers.

When he told the inhabitants he was from Gallaudet, the campus broke out in a riotous celebration. The entire campus then followed Gator's taxi to Kendall Green, where friends and colleagues who had forgotten each other's existence exchanged tearful embraces.

President I. Kink Jogging swore that a task force would investigate "how we could lose the entire campus of a former college."

Soon afterwards, provost Heavy Corset formed Gallaudet's 50,000th task force to study the feasibility of moving the campus to the vacant Hammonet Junior High building, which is currently being used to

study the social behavior of urban rats.

The District of Corruption seems to be willing to transfer the building to Gallaudet. Only a few minor sticky points remain, such as the district's asking price of \$75 billion dollars.

To ensure that the campus does not become misplaced again, Jogging will visit it weekly while on one of his marathon training runs. The visits will enable Jogging to deliver Northwest Campus' weekly funding check of \$20.13.

Crassified Ads

FOR SALE: Smokable, shootable, snortable, edible, and otherwise consumable products, best rate in town, right in your own back yard. Meet "Mr. Q," corner of P St. and Florida Ave., weekdays 10-4.

FOR SALE: Two spaces in underground parking garage near Plaza Dining Hall, to top bidder, nothing under \$2,000 per semester considered. Call Max, x3333 (TDD).

FOR TRADE: A parking space at the Capitol Hill luncheon spot of your choice with my disabled person's parking permit and you buy lunch. E-mail NO_TOW.

FOR SALE: 25 buckets used to catch rain from leaks at HMB, \$1/ea.; wet books, 25 cents/ea./BO; 30 sq. yards mildewed carpet, BO. Call Nancy, 5514, or E-mail NI'M-SICKI.

WANTED: Used Signed English books, can pay up to \$1/ea. Call Mike, x4444, or E-mail MHEMP.

FOR RENT: 106-BR 3-bath dormitory, walk to Kendall Green, W/D, \$1,000/mo. plus util. Call Peter, x8800, or E-mail PGOODGUY.